

## NOTES & SAFETY INFORMATION

Underground power services present a very serious and potentially fatal hazard if damaged. As a consequence, personnel engaged in excavation work have a particular responsibility under the Health and Safety Act 1992 to identify and manage hazards.

While every attempt is made to ensure the accuracy of the information supplied, nevertheless **responsibility for work carried out rests with the person undertaking the work**. You will have to pay the cost of any damage you cause. A comprehensive guide for safety with underground services is available from Worksafe and it is recommended that you read this and apply it whenever you are working near electrical cables.

Some of the key points to remember are:

1. Any plans supplied may not necessarily detail all of the electrical cables or their precise locations. **These plans are only valid for two weeks from issue. The landmarks and/or ground levels may have changed, and depths of cables should be considered a rough guide only.** Use common sense and care when working near cables.
2. The cable marking service uses cable locators to identify the location of the cable. Where there are multiple cables and/or other services **this can produce discrepancies** in marking the cable.
3. Marlborough Lines, in specific cases, requires that written consent in the form of a Close Approach Authority be obtained from them when excavating, thrusting or drilling near strategic underground power cables.
4. Any cables, either identified on the drawings or from the cable locator, should have their **precise location confirmed by carefully hand digging** (using shovels and spades) or hydro vacuuming prior to using any mechanical diggers, machinery or power tools in their vicinity. Some cables will have warning strips and/or mechanical protection, others will have none.
5. Under no circumstances use mechanical diggers, machinery or power tools **within 0.5m** from a cable.
6. Never use exposed cables as handholds or footholds.
7. Do not build existing cables into manholes, structures or concrete.
8. If you think you have **damaged a cable, clear everyone away from the site** then contact us on telephone 03 577 7007. It is always safer, cheaper and easier to repair it immediately.
9. The paint used to mark cable locations is water based and will quickly fade.
10. Water pipes and other services may confuse the cable locator device and they can look like electrical cables. Exercise caution if any doubt exists.
11. Earth wires, which will usually be bare conductor, may be buried with electrical cables. These should always be treated as alive and as a hazard to safety. Contact us immediately if you damage any cabling, including bare wires.
12. Please sign and return this form at least 72-hours before you require the cable to be located. Where less notice than this is supplied, Marlborough Lines will charge you an additional cost of \$200.00 incl GST to undertake the cable location. We allow for up to one-hour onsite, and up to 100m of cable locating. Any additional time onsite will be charged.
13. If a cable is found to be less than 600mm deep or in a different location to that on the plan, please contact Marlborough Lines to have the correct location noted and/or depth fixed before the excavation is backfilled.
14. Existing cables shall not be left unsupported during excavation as damage may occur.
15. If digging near power poles, please consult the New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice (NCECP 34) which details the minimum safe distances for excavation and construction near poles.
16. **Mobile plant must not be operated within 4-metres of power lines.**

Above all remember that **we are available to assist you** and that if you have any questions or concerns or do not understand any of these notes please contact us.

Marlborough Lines Ltd, PO Box 144, Blenheim 7240 Tel: 03 577 7007 [www.marlboroughlines.co.nz](http://www.marlboroughlines.co.nz)